I know whether there is any prospect of the Government considering the desirability of cancelling that order in the near future?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—That is exactly what we want. I placed a very detailed statement of the conditions before the Council.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—If I understood you right, I think you said that you wanted an assurance from the Chairman. I want to know what that assurance was.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I wanted to consult the Chairman, that is all. The letter was forwarded to me. I have sent a reply to that letter. On account of the very busy time when that letter was gone, I shall see the Chairman and consult him.

132. Mr. V. D. Ouseph.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table a statement showing (1) number of applications for pipe water service connections in Ernakulam since 1st of Kumbham 1103; (ii) of the applications referred to above the number that was (1) allowed, (2) rejected and (3) kept pending?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(1) 42 applications were received by the Chairman, Ernakulam Municipal Council.

(ii) (1) Nil.

(2) Nine of the applicants were asked to renew their applications after the erection of the new machinery at the Chowwara Head Works.

(3) The rest are kept pending.

Perimpillisseri Ferry.

133. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they had petitions from the public requesting them to bund up Perimpillisseri ferry in the Trichur Taluk and construct a bridge there;

(b) if so, how many such petitions they have received and from what date;

(c) what are the replies given by the Government to those petitions;

(d) whether they intend taking up that work in future?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—(a) Yes.

(b) Five. 3 in 1095 and 2 in 1098.

(c) Copies of the reply given to the petitioners are appended. (*Vide Appendix III.*)

(d) It will be taken up when the conditions in Diwan's Proceedings, dated 25th April 1923, Dis. No. 837/D/98 (P. W. Department) are complied with.

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Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, may I know whether the Government had prepared an estimate last year or year before last for the work?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Unfortunately I did not know the question was coming up to-day. In the list of questions sent to me last night this was not included. What is the exact point you want?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I understand an estimate was prepared last year only for general information. From a personal talk with the permanent Chief Engineer I remember to have heard from him that he was ready to take up the scheme even last year, and by chance it was postponed. So I want to know the cost of the estimate also. There is a rough estimate for about Rs. 85,000.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I want notice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is not the Government aware that there are road approaches on either side leading to that ferry?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Perhaps. I want notice.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Does the Government know the distance from Pallippuram to Cherpu Dispensary now if a patient is to be taken by road and the difference in distance if the bridge is constructed?

Deputy President.—How can he be expected to know? Probably he might not have looked into it.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—The Hon'ble Member knows the distance. He may inform me.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—I know the distance. I want to know whether the Government knows it. Unfortunately I am not allowed under the rules to make an explanation or have a discussion about it. I just wanted to know it. Is the Government in the habit of asking for contributions in the shape of materials and labour from the people when they do important works? Does the Government anywhere else require the contribution of labour and materials from the people when they want an urgent work to be done and when the people of that locality want that urgent work to be done?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There is no such rule.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Do they generally do it? My question is not whether there is any rule for that or not. My question is whether they generally require labour and materials from the people.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—We do ask the cooperation of the people, sometimes in giving lands free, some-

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times in making money contributions, when the importance of the work is not so great that it should be done entirely out of public revenues but still the people want it. We ask them. I know one Nambutiripad there contributes some money, and the people said they would give lands. I do not think we have asked for that, but if they are prepared to give something, we take it.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—But if they are asked to pay 20 or 30 thousand rupees, do you expect that they will be able to do it? Government admit in one of the replies that the construction of the bridge embankments and road extensions as proposed by the Chief Engineer will no doubt be very useful to the inhabitants of the locality, especially to those living in the *desams* of Panamjiyam, Pariom and Pallippuram, and will in the long run result in developing the economical conditions of the people of those places. The importance is admitted, and yet, at any rate, may I know whether the Government is prepared to reconsider this matter?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I have not seen the Proceedings and I was not aware that this question was coming up to-day.

Transfer of the Head Clerk of the P. W. D., Northern Division.

134. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House whether the Head Clerk of the P. W. D., Northern Division, has submitted a petition praying for a transfer from there, and if so, will the Government kindly place a copy of the petition on the Table?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—No such petition has been received.

Appointments in the College.

135. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether appointments in the College are made on the recommendation by the Director of Public Instruction to the Diwan or whether they are made on the recommendation by the Principal straight to the Diwan;

(2) whether any appointments have been made by the Diwan in the College without being first recommended by the Director?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(1) Appointments are generally made on the recommendations of the Director, though there is no rule that his recommendations should be called

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